

ANGOSTURA UNIT Draft Environmental Impact Statement

This EIS (environmental impact statement) analyzes impacts of a new long-term water service contract with the Angostura Irrigation District and impacts of water management at the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Angostura Unit in southwestern South Dakota. The EIS was prepared in compliance with NEPA (the National Environmental Policy Act). Four alternatives were analyzed: The No Action Alternative would continue to provide the District with water to irrigate up to 12,218 acres and would not change water management at the reservoir; the Reestablishment of Natural Flows Below the Dam Alternative would eliminate irrigation to reestablish (as nearly as possible) flows in the Cheyenne River below the reservoir; the Improved Efficiencies Alternative would increase efficiency of the District's distribution system and on-farm irrigation to save up to 9,000 AF (acre-feet) of water per year for various purposes, while irrigating up to 12,218 acres; and the Reservoir Recreation and Fisheries Alternative would provide water to improve recreation and the reservoir fishery while irrigating up to 12,218 acres. Environmental factors analyzed for each alternative were surface water quantity; surface water quality; groundwater; sediment; the stream corridor; wetlands; fisheries; wildlife; threatened or endangered species; social and economic conditions; Indian Trust Assets; environmental justice; cultural resources; and paleontological resources.

Questions/comments on this EIS should be directed to:

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